

Chapter Seven mCLASS

The Purpose of mCLASS

The purpose of *mCLASS* assessments is to provide diagnostic measures for K-2 students in literacy and numeracy, and to improve student achievement through formative tools that support growth and early intervention prior to ISTEP+ testing. *mCLASS:Reading 3D* and *mCLASS:Math* help identify students' foundational skills and provide teachers with instructional guidance based on student performance on benchmark assessments and regular progress monitoring.

Structure and Content of mCLASS for 2013-2014

Testing personnel should note the following regarding the administration of the 2013-2014 *mCLASS* assessments:

1. *mCLASS* assessments are K-2 diagnostic tools used to assess reading and mathematics skills.
2. *mCLASS:Reading 3D* consists of two components:
 - Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)®, which alerts teachers to difficulties in student learning and informs teachers of student progress regarding basic literacy skills; and
 - Text Reading Comprehension (TRC)®, which helps teachers identify and track error patterns, reading strategies, and comprehension through the use of reading records.
3. *mCLASS:Math* assists teachers in identifying students at-risk of acquiring proficient early math skills and in learning more about students' mathematical thinking.
4. *mCLASS:Reading 3D* and *mCLASS:Math* offer suggestions for progress monitoring based on benchmark assessments of student performance.
5. *mCLASS:Reading 3D* and *mCLASS:Math* assessments are administered during three benchmark windows, as outlined in the chart below.

Guidance for Use With Special Education Students

A guidance document has been created as a reference to assist educators in administering the *mCLASS* reading and math assessments. This guidance contains answers to the most commonly asked questions related to implementing the *mCLASS* assessment system with special education students. The guidance document is available by accessing this link:

<http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/assessment/specialeducationandmclassassessments042111final.pdf>

Application Process

The application process for schools to utilize the diagnostic tools takes place annually during the months of March through May. The steps to complete this process include submission of the completed application, signoff by the corporation superintendent, and final verification of the application information by the corporation.

mCLASS Assessment Windows for 2013-2014

Window	Dates	Administration Type
BOY	Reading 3D: August 21 – September 18, 2013 Math: September 11 – October 9, 2013	Online
MOY	Reading 3D: January 8 – February 5, 2014 Math: January 29 – February 26, 2014	Online
EOY	Reading 3D: April 16 – May 14, 2014 Math: April 23 – May 21, 2014	Online

Notes:

- All portions of the **grade 2 mCLASS:Math** assessment are administered via paper-and-pencil.
- 90% completion is required by approved schools in each window.
- Testing outside of any window requires IDOE approval. Please contact the Office of Student Assessment for guidance: istep@doe.in.gov
- For additional information, please access <http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/mclass-k-2>.